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This listing of claims will replace all prior
versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (canceled)

1   Claim 2 (original): A method for controlling sampling of
2   addressed data, the method comprising:
3   a) determining a state of next hop information
4   defining a destination for samples of addressed data;
5   b) if it is determined that the state of the next hop
6   information is stable, then
7   i) generating samples from the addressed data,
8   and
9   ii) forwarding the samples based on the next hop
10   information; and
11   c) if it is determined that the state of the next hop
12 information is not stable, then not forwarding
13 samples,
14 The method of claim 1 wherein the act of not forwarding
15 samples includes dropping samples generated.

Claims 3 and 4 (canceled)

1   Claim 5 (currently amended): A method for controlling
2   sampling of addressed data, the method comprising:
3   a) determining a state of next hop information
4   defining a destination for samples of addressed data;
5   b) if it is determined that the state of the next hop
6   information is stable, then
7   i) generating samples from the addressed data,
8   and

2

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9   ii) forwarding the samples based on the next hop

10   information; and

11   c) if it is determined that the state of the next hop

12   information is not stable, then not forwarding

13   samples.

14   ~~The method of claim~~ 1 wherein the next hop information (A)

15   includes an index or name associated with an interface, (B)

16   is associated with an interface, or (C) is associated with

17   a next hop destination address.

1   Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein a link

2   terminated by the interface defines a point-to-point

3   connection with a sample destination device.

Claim 7 (canceled)

1   Claim 8 (currently amended): The method of claim 5 ~~7~~

2   wherein a link terminated by the interface defines a

3   point-to-point connection with a sample destination device.

Claim 9 (canceled)

1   Claim 10 (currently amended): A method for controlling

2   sampling of addressed data, the method comprising:

3   a) determining a state of next hop information

4   defining a destination for samples of addressed data;

5   b) if it is determined that the state of the next hop

6   information is stable, then

7   i) generating samples from the addressed data,

8   and

9   ii) forwarding the samples based on the next hop